



MacIntyre Academies  
Quest Academy

## NOVEMBER 2023 EDITION 1 NEWSLETTER



Learners do not need to bring in their own balls, we have them available. If they do, they will have to be handed in on arrival like tech.

“  
Quote of  
the week  
”

*“The whole purpose of education is to  
turn mirrors into windows”*

*~ Sydney J. Harris*

# WELCOME



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we step into a new half-term, we are delighted to share with you our plans for the upcoming festive week, filled with various events that celebrate diversity, kindness, and compassion. Here's a glimpse of what's in store:

## **Diwali Celebrations (November 10-14):**

Diwali, the festival of light, will be an opportunity for learners to explore and learn about the significance of Diwali in different cultures festival.

## **Remembrance Day (November 11):**

As Remembrance Day falls on the weekend this year, we gave class teams the option to solemnly observe today in honour of the sacrifices made by those who served in the armed forces. Learner's were give the option to engage in age-appropriate activities and discussions to help them understand the importance of remembrance and gratitude.

## **World Kindness Day (November 13):**

November 13th is World Kindness Day, and we'll be celebrating the power of kindness throughout the week. Learners will be encouraged to participate in acts of kindness, and we will showcase their efforts to inspire a school-wide culture of compassion and empathy, in line with our vision and values.

We look forward to your support and active participation in these festive and meaningful activities. If you have any questions, please feel free to get in touch with our school office.

Wishing you and your families a joyous and festive half-term ahead!

## **Anti-Bullying Week (November 13-17):**

The week of November 13th to 17th marks Anti-Bullying Week. Our school is committed to creating a safe and inclusive environment for all learners. Throughout the week, we will engage in activities that promote kindness, empathy, and respect. Together, we can stand up against bullying and foster a culture of acceptance.

## **Children in Need (November 17):**

School will be participating in various fundraising activities, and we encourage learners to wear something spotty and/or yellow to show their solidarity. Let's unite for a good cause and make a positive impact on the lives of children in need.

Warm regards,

*Tyla Owen,*  
Interim Principal



**Odd Socks Day**  
**Monday 13th November**

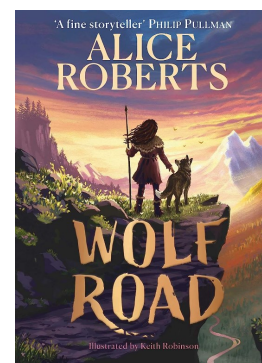


**Children In Need**  
**Friday 17th November**

## ***We are successful because...***

***... the mother of one of our learners said that he is making friends and expresses that he is happy to be at school, since joining Quest Academy.***

***... the family of one of our learners said that they feel privileged to have had the level of support around identifying her needs, at Quest Academy.***



## Wolf Road

by Alice Roberts

Discover the history of our lifetime through one girl's adventure, in the epic new children's novel from bestselling author and broadcaster, Professor Alice Roberts.

Tuuli is a prehistoric girl, travelling with her tribe through the seasons – making camp, hunting for food and protecting themselves against the many hazards that the climate throws at them. Tuuli knows there's a bigger world out there, and when she spots a strange boy lurking outside their camp, she realises that he might hold the adventure she is looking for.

He is from another tribe, sent to find safer ground and as he and Tuuli strike up an unlikely friendship, they set out on a journey that will impact the rest of human history.

A vast adventure with a very human heart, full of wild animals, huge scenery and heart-stopping danger and inspired by real anthropological discoveries. The stunning debut novel from *Digging for Britain* presenter, Professor Alice Roberts, for fans of *His Dark Materials*, *Wolf Brother* and *The Last Bear*.

## FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If your child is eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) please apply via the online application form using this link

[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals)



### Eligibility for benefits-related free school meals (FSM)

Families who receive the following are eligible for free school meals:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on-paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

**For learners currently on our FSM list you do not need to reapply. Any new learners joining Quest, will need to let Warwickshire Council know you have transferred.**

## THE PERSON WHO HAD FEELINGS

Once there was a very small person who had feelings. They had many feelings and got them every day. Their family liked them when they showed their feelings, so... they started wearing them on their sleeve. One day one of the parents said they did not like to see the small persons' FEAR feeling anymore. The small person tried to pull it off. The parent said they would give the small person some TOUGH to cover their FEAR. It was very hard to cover the FEAR with TOUGH so the other parent and grandparents helped. It took many days.

"Now you look wonderful" the parents said when it was done. "We've covered some of your feelings with TOUGH. You will grow into a good strong person."

When the small person was a little older they found a friend. The friend also wore their feelings on their sleeve. One day the friend said "my parents want me to cover up my LONELY feelings and I will be different from now on." And they were! The small person decided to cover their LONELY feelings too and they got ANGER from another adult. The small person put the big patches of ANGER on top of their LONELY. It was hard work trying to cover the LONELY feelings.

When the small person went to school some of their LONELY feelings started to show. SO... the teacher kept them late and gave them some GUILT to cover the LONELY feelings. Sometimes at night when they were alone the small person would look at their feelings. They would pull off the TOUGH and ANGER to look at their LONELY and FEAR. Then they would have to take a long time putting the TOUGH, ANGER and GUILT on again.

One night they noticed their LONELY and FEAR were growing and beginning to stick out around the patches. The small person had to go out to find some more ANGER to cover the LONELY and got all the TOUGH their parents could spare to cover their FEAR.

This small person grew bigger and was very popular. Everyone said that this person could hide their feelings well. The persons' parents said they had a PROUD feeling because the person had so much TOUGH. But the person could not find anywhere to put the PROUD feeling because the TOUGH was getting so big. The person had trouble finding any room on their sleeve for any other feelings. The TOUGH and the ANGER were all that showed.

Then one day they met another person and became friends. They thought that they were a lot alike because they both had only TOUGH and ANGRY feelings showing. But one day the friend told the person a secret. "I'm not really like you... my TOUGH and ANGRY are really only patches to hide my FEAR and LONELY." The friend then pulled back the edge of their TOUGH and showed the person FEAR. Just for a second



The person sat quiet and did not speak. Then carefully they pulled back a little edge of their TOUGH and showed their FEAR. The friend saw the LONELY underneath. Then the friend gently reached out and touched the persons FEAR and then the LONELY... The friends' touch was like magic. A feeling of ACCEPTANCE appeared on the persons' sleeves, and the TOUGH and ANGER were smaller. Then the person knew that whenever someone gave them ACCEPTANCE they would need less TOUGH and then there would be more room to show their REAL feelings whatever they were..... HAPPY..... LONELY..... PROUD..... SAD.....



## CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Wednesday 20th December

**Roast Turkey,  
Cocktail Sausage, Stuffing Ball  
with Gravy**  
or  
**(vg) Roast Quorn Fillet,  
Stuffing Ball with Gravy**

**Served with Crispy Roast Potatoes,  
Garden Peas and Sliced Carrots**

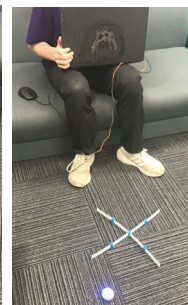
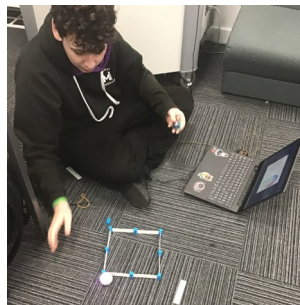
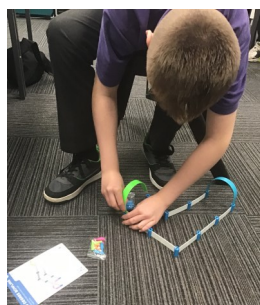
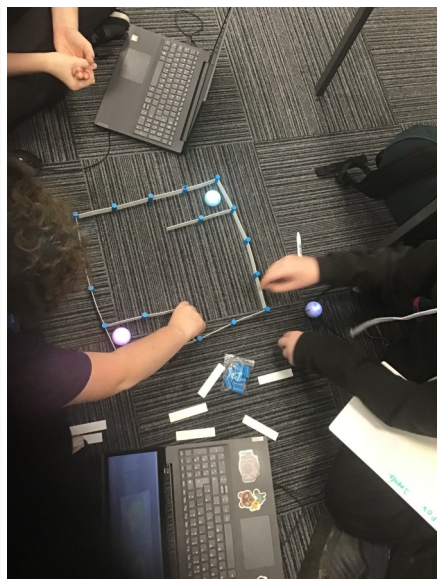
**(vg) Christmas Shortbread or  
(v) Christmas Cup Cake**



## GANDHI CLASS WORKING WITH SPHERO MINI

A fun and imaginative way to learn programming with Sphero Mini! This compact robot, measuring about the same size as a ping pong ball, offering intuitive coding and a range of features that make it a fun and engaging tool for exploring the world of STEAM. Equipped with a gyroscope, accelerometer, and colourful

LED lights, this educational coding robot is more than a robot toy. Learners customized them in lesson to suit their mood!



Learners are invited to attend school **Friday 17th November** wearing **yellow and/or spots**, or **Children In Need branded items**. As this falls on a non-uniform day it is not compulsory. We will also be offering face painting, courtesy of Allie. If you would like to donate, please do so via the Children

In Need Website: <https://donate.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/>





# DIWALI

**This year Diwali will be celebrated on Sunday 12th November 2023**

## Background

The United Kingdom consists of various ethnic groups and religions. Hindus comprised the second largest non-Christian religious group in the United Kingdom, according to national statistics for 2001. There were more than half a million Hindus comprising one percent of the total population and 18 percent of the non-Christian religious population in the United Kingdom. Diwali is one of the major festivals in the Hindu calendar that is celebrated in many parts of the United Kingdom.

Diwali is called the Festival of Lights and is celebrated to honour Rama-Chandra, the seventh avatar (incarnation of the god Vishnu). It is believed that on this day Rama returned to his people after 14 years of exile during which he fought and won a battle against the demons and the demon king, Ravana. People lit their houses to celebrate his victory over evil (light over darkness).

The goddess of happiness and good fortune, Lakshmi, also figures into the celebration. It is believed that she roams the Earth on this day and enters the house that is pure, clean, and bright. Diwali celebrations may vary in different communities but its significance and spiritual meaning is generally “the awareness of the inner light”.

## What Do People Do?

Many activities and events are held in United Kingdom to celebrate Diwali, which is known as the “Festival of Lights”. Diwali is a time for spring cleaning in homes and offices. Many homes that celebrate Diwali have assorted sweets, savouries and Diwali herbs. Various lights, candles and sparklers are lit inside and outside homes.

Many people wear their finest clothes to celebrate Diwali. Many women wearing jewellery and silk outfits and some have *mehendi*, which is a temporary henna decoration, on their palms. Many Indian businesses see Diwali as a day to start the new financial year because of Diwali’s ties with Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth.

Many cities throughout the United Kingdom celebrate the Diwali festival with firework displays, dances, plays, street lighting, Diwali lanterns, traditional Indian food, and music. Hindu council representatives, spokespeople from Indian associations, and political leaders publicly announce their greetings to those involved in organizing and participating in Diwali celebrations.



## Symbols

Lamps, fireworks and bonfires illuminate this holiday, as the word “Deepawali” means “a row or cluster of lights” or “rows of *diyas* (clay lamps)”. The festival symbolizes the victory of righteousness and the lifting of spiritual darkness. The goddess Lakshmi, who symbolizes wealth, happiness and prosperity, is also worshipped during Diwali.



Great game today Kiel (26.10.2023),

Your students were brilliant in terms of their attitude before during and after the game, their commitment on the pitch and respect towards us all from Loxley and each other. The staff in attendance were excellent too. Just wanted to say how refreshing it was to meet such lovely young men who



were humble despite dominating large parts of the game.

We hope to compete in many more sports and competitions with you in the future.

Best Wishes

*Adam T.*

## ACADEMIC YEAR 2023 - 2024

We have 2 extra days for half term in October, these days are added on to the Summer Term. The rationale is that the days allow families to take advantage of quieter and cheaper holidays.

### AUTUMN TERM 2023

Y10 & 11 Parents Evening 4 - 6pm	Thursday 14th December 2023
Xmas Fayre 2 - 3.30 pm	Friday 15th December 2023
Term Ends	Friday 22nd December 2023
Christmas Holiday	Monday 25th December 2023 to Friday 5th January 2024

### SPRING TERM 2024

Starts	Monday 8th January 2024
Half term	Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February 2024
Learners Start Back	Monday 19th February 2024
Y9 Parents & Options Evening 4 - 6 pm	Thursday 7th March 2024
Trust INSET Day (no learners on site)	Friday 8th March 2024
Easter Fayre 2 – 3.30 pm Term Ends	Friday 22nd March 2024
Spring (Easter) holiday	Monday 25 March 2024 to Friday 5 April 2024

### SUMMER TERM 2024

Starts	Monday 8th April 2024
Y7 & 8 Subject Parents Event 4 - 6pm	Thursday 11th April 2024
Bank Holiday (no learners on site)	Monday 6th May 2024
INSET day (no learners on site)	Tuesday 7th May 2024
Half term	Monday 27th May 2024 to Friday 31st May 2024
Learners Start Back	Monday 3rd June 2024
Ends	Tuesday 23rd July 2024



# REMEMBRANCE

Remembrance Sunday is a national opportunity to remember the service and sacrifice of all those that have defended our freedoms and protected our way of life. We remember the Armed Forces, and their families, from Britain and the Commonwealth, the vital role played by the emergency services and those who have lost their lives as a result of conflict or terrorism.



## **Remembrance honours those who serve to defend our democratic freedoms and way of life.**

We unite across faiths, cultures and backgrounds to remember the service and sacrifice of the Armed Forces community from United Kingdom and the Commonwealth. We will remember them.

- We remember the sacrifice of the Armed Forces community from United Kingdom and the Commonwealth.
- We pay tribute to the special contribution of families and of the emergency services.
- We acknowledge innocent civilians who have lost their lives in conflict and acts of terrorism.

## **Remembrance does not glorify war and its symbol, the red poppy, is a sign of both Remembrance and hope for a peaceful future.**

Wearing a poppy is never compulsory but is greatly appreciated by those who it is intended to support.

When and how you choose to wear a poppy is a reflection of your individual experiences and personal memories.

## **Remembrance unites people of all faiths, cultures, and backgrounds but it is also deeply personal.**

It could mean wearing a poppy in November, before [Remembrance Sunday](#). It could mean joining with others in your community on a commemorative anniversary. Or it could mean taking a moment on your own to pause and reflect. Everyone is free to remember in their own way, or to choose not to remember at all.



Remembrance Day - Sat, 11 Nov 2023

Remembrance Sunday - Sun, 12 Nov 2023

# ANTI BULLYING WEEK

Anti-Bullying Week 2023: Make A Noise About Bullying: ABA are official organisers of Anti-Bullying Week and Odd Socks Day in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Anti-Bullying Week 2023 will take place from **Monday 13th - Friday 17th November 2023**. The theme is Make A Noise About Bullying.



The theme of Make A Noise About Bullying came about following consultation with teachers and pupils by the Anti-Bullying Alliance which coordinates Anti-Bullying Week every year in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Teachers and children wanted a theme that empowered them to do something positive to counter the harm and hurt that bullying causes.

Following the success of the campaign in 2022 – when 80% of schools marked the week, reaching over 7.5 million children and young people – Anti-Bullying Week will remind everyone whether it's in school, at home, in the community or online, we can bring an end to bullying.

Anti-Bullying Alliance patron, CBBC and CBeebies star Andy Day is leading celebrity support for the campaign, with his band Andy and the Odd Socks. The band will record and release a toe-tapping song to mark Odd Socks Day on the first day of Anti-Bullying Week. There's a serious message behind the fun: let's pull on odd socks to show we're ALL unique and different, and let's be kind to each other and respect each other's individuality.



For older children, the buzz on social media is an important part of Anti-Bullying Week, and a great opportunity for schools to share how they've embraced the anti-bullying message. It's easy to get involved via #AntiBullyingWeek and #MakeANoise on Instagram, TikTok, Facebook and Twitter.





# WORLD KINDNESS DAY

**Monday 13th November 2023**

It is now 25 years since World Kindness Day was initiated and 11 years since Kindness Day UK was founded. In that time there have been tens of thousands of kindness initiatives and the day is now widely recognised on a global level.

In many UK schools Kindness is now integrally integrated into the value system.

## Here are some ideas for your school do on Kindness Day

- Create a Kindness Group or a student kindness committee – meet to discuss ideas/ focuses/ do random acts of kindness in school or the local community. Focus on acts of kindness within school hold class discussions about kindness. Talk about acts of kindness the whole school can do together and good deeds individuals can do
- Each year group choose their own charity to raise money for – raise as much as possible on that day or week and do an assembly about your activities and where the money raised is going
- Involve local businesses and fundraise for charity with them
- Volunteer in groups e.g. at a nursing home, soup kitchen, animal rescue centre etc, or create 'packages' with donated or homemade goodies for a local hospice, nursing home, homeless shelter or hospital
- Celebrate the everyday heroes/kind figures in the local area or within school – this could be done through nominations and a whole school vote
- Create a compliment or 'thank you' board for students to express their positive feelings towards each other
- Make a display – leave cards for pupils to write down kind deeds they have done or witnessed and pin onto the display. This could be created from an art competition or could be something contemporary such as graffiti
- Involve different areas of the school e.g. have a kindness zone in the Library displaying historical figures who demonstrated acts of kindness
- Include the subject of kindness in each class e.g. in English focus on literacy with a kind theme; poems or books with a kind storyline
- Create a magazine or leaflet about everything that occurred on Kindness Day – you could send this out to parents too
- Write a school blog about kind acts that are carried out that day/week
- Put posters up around the school with inspirational kind quotations on them
- Short story competition – with a kind theme





## EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

At Quest Academy, we seek to ensure that all our learners receive a full time education which maximizes opportunities for each learner to reach his or her true potential: we feel that good attendance (95% or above) and good punctuality too are a vital part of this and we want all learners to strive towards this.

Government statistics have proven that children with poor attendance are 47% less likely to meet their potential examination results compared to learners with good attendance.

We have a desire to strive towards 100% attendance for all of our learners and expect all parents/carers to actively support us in ensuring that their children are in school, safe, at all times. We also aim to hold all parents / carers that give low priority to good school attendance accountable.

### Quest Contact details:

**Quest Academy**  
**Anderson Avenue**  
**Rugby**  
**Warwickshire**  
**CV22 5PE**

E: [quest.office@macintyreacademies.org](mailto:quest.office@macintyreacademies.org)

T: 01788 593 112



### How to contact members of staff

Please contact Reception if you would like to speak with a member of staff. You will either be transferred or reception will email the member of staff to let them know that you have called.

### Reporting pupil absence and lateness

Please can we remind parent/carers to call school on **01788 593 112**, before 9am if your child may be late or is unwell. You will also need to contact the taxi company to let them know.

If your child is absent for more than 7 days you will need to provide a doctors certificate. If we do not receive a doctors note and have not seen your child we will have no alternative but to refer the matter to the Safeguarding Board in line with our safeguarding procedures.

## PRIVACY NOTICE

MacIntyre Academies collects and uses pupil information which complies with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). This is Europe's framework for data protection laws – it replaces the previous 1995 data protection directive, which UK law has previously been based upon.

**Please note that limited personal data is used and stored as per the MAT Retention Policy.**

You can read the full details of our [Privacy Notice](#) in the policy. This includes more details of our legal basis for the use of specific information.

